

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/728,406

Examiner

John Pezzlo

Applicant(s)

ARAMOTO, MASAFUMI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to preamendment filed 18 August 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 5
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-15 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant has claimed the following uniquely distinct features in the instant invention, which are not found in the prior art, either singularly or in combination.

1. Regarding claim 1 - A method for distributing programs to be operated on a server node and/or at least one client node connected to a network using a network gateway, wherein said network is connected to a data communication network through said network gateway, wherein at least one program distribution site is connected to said data communication network, and wherein said at least one program distribution site (i) holds a server program and/or a client program necessary for communication with a server using said server program, and (ii) has a function of distributing, upon request, said server program and/or client program to said network gateway,

said method of distributing programs using said network gateway comprising the steps of in said network gateway:

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preparing a management table storing management information for each said server node connected to said network,

receiving, from a new server starting a provision of a service on said network from said server node connected to said network, management information related to said new server including a specification of at least one of said at least one program distribution site that holds a server program associated with said new server and/or a client program associated with said new server,

updating said management table in response to the reception of said management information from said new server,

requesting in response to the reception of said management information from said new server, a transmission from said at least one of said at least one program distribution site of said server program associated with said new server and said client program associated with said new server,

receiving at said network gateway, and storing in a storage provided in association with said network gateway, said server program and said client program transmitted from said at least one of said at least one program distribution site in response to said request,

transmitting said server program associated with said new server stored in said storage to said new server, and

identifying, by making a reference to said management table, and transmitting said client program associated with said new server stored in said storage to client nodes that request communication with said server.

2. Regarding claim 8 - A method for distributing a programs to be operated on a server node and/or at least one client node connected to a network using a network gateway, wherein said network is connected to a data communication network through said network gateway, wherein at least one program distribution site is connected to said data communication network, and wherein said at least one program distribution site (i) holds a server program and/or a client program necessary for communication with a server using said server program, and (ii) has a function of distributing, upon request, said server and/or client program to a node connected to said network in response to a request therefor by said node,

said method for distributing programs using said network gateway comprising the steps of:

preparing in said network gateway a management table storing management information for each of said server nodes connected to said network,

receiving at said network gateway from a new server starting a provision of a service on said network from said server node connected to said network, management information related to said new server,

updating said management table in response to the reception of said management information from said new server by said network gateway, requesting a transmission of information related to a server program associated with said new server and information related to a client program associated with said new server from said at least one of said at least one program distribution site,

receiving at said network gateway from said at least one of said at least one program distribution site and storing in a storage provided in association with said network gateway said

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information related to said server program associated with said new server and said information related to said client program associated with said new server,

transmitting said information related to said server program associated with said new server stored in said storage provided association with said network gateway to said new server, in response to a request by a client node connected to said network, to said client node said information associated with said client program stored in said storage,

comparing at said new server said information related to said server program associated with said new server received from said storage provided in association with said network gateway with information related to a server program running on said new server,

comparing at said client node said information related to said client program associated with said new server with information related to a client program running on said client node,

determining, based upon said comparisons, whether said program running on said new server node and/or said program running at said client node requires updating and/or replacement, and

if said programs running on said new server node and/or on said at least one client node of said network require updating and/or replacement, requesting said at least one of said at least one program distribution site to transmit said server program to said new server node and/or said at least one of said at least one program distribution site to transmit said client program to said client node, directly.

3. Regarding claim 10 - A method for distributing programs using a network gateway connecting a network to a data communication network, wherein at least one program distribution site connected to said data communication network is provided, said at least one

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program distribution site holding a server program and/or a client program necessary for communication with a server using said server program and having a function of distributing a program to at least one node connected to said network in response to a request by said node therefor,

said method for distributing a program using a network gateway comprising the steps of:
preparing a management table storing management information for said server node connected to said network,

receiving a program at said network gateway from at least one of said at least one program distribution site, storing said received program in a storage provided in association with said network gateway, and transmitting said received program to at least one node connected to said network,

detecting an updated version of said received program stored in said storage held in said at least one of said at least one program distribution site, and updating said received program stored in said storage using said updated version of said program held in said at least one of said at least one said program distribution site,

requesting transmission of said updated version of said received program to said node holding said received program,

transmitting said updated version of said received program stored in said storage to said node holding said received program in response to a request therefor by said holding said received program, and

updating said received program at said node holding said received program using said transmitted updated version of said received program.

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4. Regarding claim 13 - A method for distributing programs to be operated on a server and/or at least one client node connected to a network using a network gateway, wherein said network is connected to a data communication network through said network gateway, wherein at least one program distribution site is connected to said data communication network, and wherein said at least one program distribution site (i) holds a server program and/or a client program necessary for communication with a server using said server program, and (ii) has a function of distributing, upon request, said server and/or client program to a node connected to said network in response to a request by said network gateway therefor,

said method of distributing a program using a network gateway comprising the steps of:
preparing in said network gateway a management table storing management information for said server node connected to said network,

receiving at said network gateway information relating to a program held by a node connected to said network from at least one of said at least one program distribution site, and storing said received information relating to said program in a storage provided in association with said network gateway,

detecting at said network gateway an updated version of said program held by said node connected to said network stored in said at least one of said at least one program distribution site, and updating said information relating to said program held by said node connected to said network stored in said storage with information relating to said updated version of said program held by said node connected to said network stored in said at least one of said at least one program distribution site,

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transmitting said information relating to said updated version of said program to held by said a node connected to said network to said node connected to said network holding said program updating of said program in said storage in response to a request by said network gateway, and

determining at said node connected to said network holding said program whether an updated version of said program should be requested by said node based upon said information relating to said updated version of said program held by said node provided to said node by said network gateway.

The closest prior art, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Claims 1-15 being allowable, Prosecution On The Merits Is Closed in this application.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. Bereiter (US 6,662,205 B1) discloses a scaleable and extensible system management architecture with dataless endpoints.
2. Reisman (US 6,557,054 B2) discloses a method and system for distributing updates by presenting directory of software available for user installation that is not already installed on user station.
3. Campbell et al. (US 6,240,451 B1) discloses a method and apparatus for automatically disseminating information over a network.
4. Achtermann et al. (US 6,704,782 B1) discloses a system and method for real time progress monitoring in a computer network.
5. Griffin et al. (US 5,005,122) discloses an arrangement with cooperating management server node and network service node.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Pezzlo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3090. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached on (571) 272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Washington, D.C.

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306

For informal or draft communications, please label ☐PROPOSED☐ or ☐DRAFT☐

Hand delivered responses should be brought to:

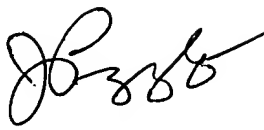
Jefferson Building

500 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA.

John Pezzlo

16 November 2004



JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER